



Docket No. 1082-010

Group Art Unit: 2855

Examiner: Martir, Lilybett

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: SMITH et al. Entitled: "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MEASURING BENDING IN A PIN MEMBER" Serial No. 09/897,003

Filed: July 2, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

October 15, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c) to bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. It is being filed after the occurrence of events identified in § 1.97(b), but upon information and belief before the mailing date of either a final office action or a notice of allowance.

A Certification in compliance with 37 C.F.R.§ 1.97(e) follows. Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an International Search Report (copy enclosed) from the European Patent Office in a counterpart International application, PCT/US02/21212, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence, the attached Form PTO-1449 with cited documents, and International Search Report are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on October 15 2002 with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231.